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Innovation & Climate Change:

Stimulating Innovation
Accelerating Technology Transfer & Diffusion
Enabling Global Solutions

An International Conference hosted by WIPO

July 11 & 12, 2011

Geneva, Switzerland

International Conference Center Geneva (CICG)

A global forum—by and for—leading thinkers, negotiators and entrepreneurs from government, academia, NGOs, IGOs, industry and the public to identify tools, explore strategies and develop global solutions to promote innovation and technology transfer around a pressing global problem.

in·no·va·tion [i-nə-'vā-shən]

Function: noun

1: The introduction of something new that solves problems and adds value.

e.g., WIPO's engagement in innovation & climate change

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Stimulating Innovation

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Enabling Global Solutions

How can the world innovate its way to a carbon-neutral future?

Research and development partnerships are the foundation of innovation to address climate change. And concerted action to support the necessary innovation requires an enabling policy environment. This conference will address how the principal factors stimulating innovation can be integrated into coherent strategies that span across R&D, national production capabilities, access to markets, effective regulations, and sound intellectual property management. Options will be explored that accelerate technology transfer and diffusion, and thus affect people's lives around the world.

Policy Segment: What can the multilateral system contribute and accomplish?

Leadership from the UN System is important to move toward meaningful international action. This segment of the conference will consider the current state of negotiations under the UNFCCC, the needs of the global community, and address overarching policy aspects that lead us toward the accelerated creation and dissemination of appropriate technologies. Panelists to be invited include leaders from various IGOs. In addition to the UNFCCC, these include: FAO; GEF; ITU; UNCTAD; UNDESA; UNDP; UNEP; UNIDO; WHO; WMO; WTO; the World Bank; and others.

Plenary Sessions: How can shifting innovation paradigms be leveraged to stimulate innovation, accelerate technology transfer, and diffusion?

Short presentations will be followed by ample discussion time and engagement with the participants. Key aspects that will be addressed include:

- How does innovation in climate change technologies really work? What are the economic imperatives to stimulate innovation and structured deals?
- What tools exist to encourage effective partnerships?
- What are the complementary roles of the principal actors to bring about synergies and effective use of resources?
- What can be learned from existing mechanisms and public-private partnerships that have led to successful outcomes (such as various forms of Open Innovation Platforms, the "Clean Investment Fund", and Product Development Partnerships in Health)?
- How can the interplay of technology transfer and licensing of relevant technologies be facilitated?
- To what extent can collective licensing schemes, open innovation frameworks, network innovation systems, and pooling arrangements be made most relevant?

Break-out Sessions: What are specific options to accelerate technology transfer and access?

Different groups will address specific questions centered around four key topics, each within the overarching theme of technology transfer and diffusion:

- **Policy:** What are the principal choices to stimulate innovation in climate change solutions? How can technology clusters and networks be encouraged and broadened?
- **Finance:** How can access to financing by developing countries be facilitated?
- **Partnerships:** How can different R&D and collaborative models be encouraged and their efficiency leveraged? What is the role of specific knowledge sharing platforms?
- **Technology transfer and licensing:** What are best practices in technology transfer and licensing? How can patent landscapes, alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, targeted capacity building and other forms of supportive services contribute effectively?

Final Round Table: Summing up the way forward to stimulate innovation, accelerate technology transfer and diffusion, and enable global solutions.